



FOR RELEASE

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Ronald McDonald House in Vancouver gets some Yukon financial support

WHITEHORSE—Yukon Premier Darrell Pasloski and Minister of Health and Social Services Mike Nixon took time out from serving Yukoners at the 22nd annual McHappy Day to present a cheque to aid fundraising efforts.

"This government applauds the work by local staff to raise funds to support Ronald McDonald House in Vancouver as well as local children's charities. We are happy to provide a cheque for \$2,500 to support their efforts and recognize the important work undertaken by Ronald McDonald House," Pasloski said.

The cheque was presented to Amanda, Bernard and Marek Stehelin, who used the residential facility and who are accepting the money on behalf of the Ronald McDonald House. Three-year-old Marek is battling leukemia.

"Yukoners are able to access the Vancouver Ronald McDonald House when their children require care and treatment at Children's Hospital in Vancouver and we are lucky that this is available to us," Nixon said. He congratulated local restaurant owners Mike and Julia Thorpe for their commitment to the community.

Since the Ronald McDonald House opened in July of 2014, 30 Yukon families have stayed there with an average stay of 56 nights.

The Ronald McDonald House provides a home-away-from-home for families whose children have serious health care issues and provide family rooms with the hospital, allowing parents to be just steps away from their sick child's bedside. In addition, Ronald McDonald care mobiles provide mobile health units that enable free and easily accessible medical care for children and their families in their own communities.

"We want Yukoners to see a piece of home while they are away from theirs, so the department is donating two pieces of Yukon artwork," Nixon added.

The Ronald McDonald House will soon have artwork by artists Libby Dulac from Haines Junction and Stephanie Ryan from Whitehorse.

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